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SECURITY INFORMATION

*File*

8 January 1952


Max:

With reference to the proposed statement of the Chairman of the United States delegation to the Consultative Group, to be considered at the Advisory Committee meeting this morning, I think you may wish to suggest a caveat regarding the agreement by the Administrator to "take full account of the Coordinating Committee discussion and of the views of individual countries expressed therein."

I think this might well be modified to read: "It is the purpose of the Administrator to..." It was not possible to submit the initial Battle Act lists to COCOM because of the time limit specified in the Act. There may be circumstances in the future, such as the inactivity of COCOM or inability to secure a quorum, when it would not be possible or feasible to postpone our action until discussion in COCOM. This is one reason I would suggest changing the statement from a positive commitment to an expression of intention and purpose.

Under the proposed procedure, for the first time consideration of U.S. exceptions to a U.S. law discontinuing U.S. aid is made conditional on consideration of discussion by an international group representing countries, all of which are receiving aid and all of which, presumably, may be asking exceptions.

You may not want to take a position, because probably no intelligence question is involved, but our silence will be construed as concurrence and I believe the proposed procedure is politically inexpedient and legally questionable.

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